

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CANBER 03491 070222Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 EB-08 PM-05 INR-10
INRE-00 SP-02 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 ACDA-12 CCO-00 /065 W
-----037845 070242Z /70 S

Z 070143Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY ON BOARD AF II FLASH

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 3199

S E C R E T CANBERRA 3491

AF II FOR HOLBROOKE FROM AMBASSADOR ALSTON

SECSTATE FOR EA OAKLEY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.)

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AUSTRALIAN COMMUNIQUE

REF: (A) STATE 116289; (B) JAKARTA 5866; (C) JAKARTA 5867

1. DICK: HAVE JUST LEFT NICK PARKINSON'S HOME WHERE CHRIS
AND I HAD A TWENTY MINUTE DISCUSSION WITH NICK AND FRANK
COOPER OF HIS DEPARTMENT.

2. I MADE IT CLEAR TO NICK: (I) THAT GOA'S PROPOSED JOINT
STATEMENT IN ITS PRESENT FORM WAS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE,
(II) THAT I REGARD IT OF VITAL IMPORTANCE THAT A CABINET
DISCUSSION OF THE DRAFT AND THUS OUR REJECTION OF IT BE
AVOIDED, AND (III) THAT NO LEAK TO THE PRESS OCCUR.

3. NICK'S REACTION WAS ONE OF NO SURPRISE -- THAT HE THOUGHT
THEIR DRAFT WAS TOO COMPREHENSIVE -- THAT WHILE THERE HAD
SOME CIRCULATION OF IT AMONG MEMBERS OF CABINET, HE
THOUGHT IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE DRAFT WAS IN FACT
JUST A DRAFT FOR THERE HAD ALREADY BEEN SUGGESTED

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CHANGES -- THAT THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE DRAFT
MIGHT HAVE BEEN LEAKED TO THE PRESS AND FOR THAT REASON
HE FELT A STATEMENT OF ONE PAGE WOULD BE DESIRABLE.
WHEN TOLD THAT THE PREAMBLE AND PARAGRAPHS 2, 3, 12, 14,
15, 16, 17, 21, 22 AND 25 WERE ACCEPTABLE (AND WE MADE
NO COMMENT ON THE REMAINDER OF THE DRAFT), HE FELT TO USE
JUST THOSE PORTIONS WHICH ARE ACCEPTABLE WOULD PROVIDE

A DISTORTED PICTURE -- THUS THE IDEA OF A GREATLY SHORTENED VERSION, AND I FEEL WE WILL BE PRESENTED WITH SUCH IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO US.

4. NICK WILL ATTEMPT IMMEDIATELY TO REACH THE PM AND WILL BE BACK IN TOUCH THIS AFTERNOON IF PROBLEMS ARISE.

5. I MADE IT CLEAR THAT IF NEED BE I WOULD SEE THE PM BUT THAT I HOPED THIS WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY.

6. I AM ENCOURAGED TO THINK THE SITUATION IS IN HAND AND THAT NO EMBARRASSMENT TO ANY PARTICIPANT OR TO EITHER GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE RESULTED.

7. HAVE JUST THIS MINUTE HAD WORD FROM NICK THAT THE PM UNDERSTANDS OUR POSITION, IS RELAXED ABOUT IT, AND THE INDICATION IS THAT THERE WILL BE NO REPEAT NO STATEMENT.

8. IT WILL BE HELPFUL TO US TO HAVE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE FROM YOU ON THIS QUESTION. HAVE JOINT STATEMENTS BEEN USED FROM COUNTRIES PREVIOUSLY VISITED ON THIS TRIP?
ALSTON

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O, MS. KENNEDY.
SECRET

NNN

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